

**Statement of Michael J. Riley  
President  
Motor Transport Association of Connecticut  
Before  
The Joint Committee on Transportation  
February 20, 2013**

Re: Proposed HB No. 6031 AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF A MOTOR BUS, TAXICAB, MOTOR VEHICLE IN LIVERY SERVICE OR MOTOR VEHICLE IN TRANSPORTATION OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

I am Michael J. Riley, President of Motor Transport Association of Connecticut (MTAC), a statewide trade association, which represents around 800 companies that operate commercial motor vehicles in and through the state of Connecticut. Our membership includes freight haulers, movers of household goods, construction companies, distributors, tank truck operators and hundreds of companies that use trucks in their business and firms that provide goods and services to truck owners.

**MTAC OPPOSES THIS BILL AS PROPOSED**

Anson Mooney, of Hartford Despatch, a third generation family household goods moving company based in East Hartford, testified against this bill, in its present form at the public hearing on February 20. Mr. Mooney represented Connecticut Movers and Warehousemen's Association as group of household goods movers within Motor Transport Association of Connecticut (MTAC).

MTAC would like to go on record as opposing this bill as described in the statement of purpose. Representatives of the movers association have met with the main proponent of this bill and understand his concerns. We would like to continue to try to address his concerns however, deregulating the moving industry is an extreme move that could eliminate important protections provided to citizens by current law.

Household goods movers load every possession a family has into a truck and drive away with it. Most movers are reputable and honest business persons who provide a needed service to families at often very stressful times. However, there are companies who, under the guise of a legal mover, hold possessions hostage for ransom, who damage or lose furniture without

recompense, who operate without required credentials, without proper registrations and licenses, without paying taxes in what could only be described as a criminal endeavor.

Unfortunately, Connecticut has no active enforcement program to protect the public from these scams. Therefore, MTAC joins with Connecticut Movers And Warehousemens Association, and Connecticut taxi, livery and bus associations in urging the legislature to, rather than deregulate these industries, provide the necessary resources to enforce current law which protects Connecticut citizens from disreputable crooks who prey upon the public.

We recommend an appropriation section be added to this bill which would provide the Department of Transportation with funds to enforce Connecticut law in the areas of the regulation of household goods movers, taxi, livery and bus companies.